

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would certainly echo the sentiments of Senator Koch. I would further point out that the audiologists have no common practice with the hearing aid people. As Chairman of the Public Health Committee, we heard these arguments again and again. I think it's regrettable that they come in after a public hearing and try and rewrite the bill. Audiologists work with people who are stroke victims, who have speech impediments and impairments, people who have had their voice box removed through removal of a malignancy and this type of a thing. I can see where there is no encroachment whatsoever upon those people selling hearing aids. Their qualifications are only that they can mold, take an impression in the ear, mold and fit a hearing aid. I can't understand their concern with this bill. After two years of hearings they come in at the 11th hour and try and rewrite the bill. I certainly would object to returning it.

SENATOR MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I stand to oppose the return of LB 406. For instance, one of the proposed amendments is to secure a title for another licensed group. It would be inappropriate for this act to attempt to title another group who is already titled under another licensure act. I strongly oppose the return of LB 406.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Moylan.

SENATOR MOYLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I hesitate to argue with my good seat mate here. However, this bill, as I have said, has been before the Legislature for several years. It was not brought out of committee in '76 because there were so many licensure bills in there that we didn't put any out of that committee. That was the only reason it didn't come out. It has been reworked, worked over. The head of the Department of Licensure, Rex Higley, has studied it, has rewritten it to make it absolutely constitutional. There is no conflict with the hearing aid dealers themselves. They have to have a license. They have their own license procedure. Anyone that wants to sell a hearing aid would have to be licensed under the hearing aid dealers license. I would urge you, with the comments of the people that have already talked I will not belabor the point, I urge you not to return this bill to Select File. It doesn't look like a specific amendment to me. There are about five amendments there. I don't believe that is protocol to return it. It has to be for a specific amendment. So I would urge you not to return this bill which had a rough time going as it is. It should be on Final Reading by this time. As I say, they are late comers. They have no solid argument against the bill as it is written.

SENATOR MARVEL: Before I recognize Senator Lamb for some discussion on the present motion, in the North balcony, from Senator Kennedy's district, 39 students from Northeast Community College at Norfolk, Nebraska. Will you please stand so we can recognize you. Senator Lamb, the floor is yours.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I stand to support the return of LB 406 for the specific amendment. I'm going to admit that perhaps this is a late blooming